

SIKKIM

GOVERNMENT **GAZETTE**

**EXTRAORDINARY
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**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL, ADM REFORMS, TRG, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES,
CAREER OPTIONS & EMPLOYMENT, SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND
CHIEF MINISTER'S SELF EMPLOYMENT SCHEME
GANGTOK**

NO:178/GEN/DOP

DATED:27. 7. 2005

NOTIFICATION

Whereas Sikkim is endowed with rich natural resources where more than 550 varieties of rare orchids, 36 types of Rhododendrons and more than 4000 types of flowering plants are found and whereas the State is also rich in horticultural crops also such as Cardamom, Ginger, Potato, Orange, Pear, Passion Fruit, etc.

And whereas the departments and organisations of the State Government are dealing with various issues relating to horticulture including floriculture, yet an urgent need is felt to coordinate, strengthen and establish linkage between activities taken up by research institutes, individual growers, farmers, cooperatives, self-help groups, beginning from marketing intelligence, adopting suitable technologies and value addition measures to marketing of the horticultural and floricultural products on commercial lines as an industry for sustainable development.

Now, therefore, the State Government hereby constitutes a State level apex body, namely Sikkim State Horticulture Mission, to look after policy formulation, execution and coordinate with various departments/organizations, NGOs and others for ensuring sustained supply of cultivable plants to the farmers and entrepreneurs and to coordinate all matters relating to development, sustainable use and full exploitation of export potentialities of various orchid species and other flowering plant species and horticultural products that can be propagated using biotechnology. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall be the nodal agency in the State for making concerted efforts for development and extension of technological advances for cultivation through micro-propagation in the field of horticulture and floriculture for the benefit of the masses in the State by full exploitation of market potential.

The objectives of the Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall be as follows:-

- (i) Develop high quality horticultural and floricultural farms in identified areas and make such areas vibrant with horticultural and floricultural activity which in turn will act as hubs for developing commercial horticulture and floriculture;

- (ii) Develop post-harvest management infrastructure;
- (iii) Strengthen Marketing Intelligence System by improving the capacity to access and use market information and intelligence to guide production and marketing strategies of farmers and entrepreneurs;
- (iv) Improve access of farmers and entrepreneurs to suitable technologies and knowledge services that address specific business problems and contribute to lower the cost of production and increase value addition;
- (v) Strengthen linkage among farmers, entrepreneurs, service providers (from Public, Private and NGO sectors) and markets in the selected value chains.
- (vi) Promote greater and more efficient private sector investment in market infrastructure.
- (vii) Assist Research & Development programmes to develop product suited for specific varieties with improved methods and technology;
- (vii) Arrest and reverse the trend of loss of gene pool of orchid species due to the unsustainable removal from its natural habitats;
- (ix) Provide sustainable and assured employment opportunities to the tribal and other weaker sections of the rural populations in such areas all round the year;
- (x) To institutionalize the skill building process with the long term goal of creating maximum number of self employment opportunities outside the traditional sectors using latest biotechnology programmes for horticulture and floriculture.
- (xi) To develop and strengthen marketing facilities with the help of Government organizations/ NGOs and local entrepreneurs;
- (xii) To involve the village community in production of horticultural products and flowers from plantlets and make the exercise full participatory and transparent.

The members of the Mission shall be as under:-

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| 1. | Chief Minister, Sikkim | Chairman |
| 2. | Minister, Tourism, Commerce & Industries,
Law and Parliamentary Affairs | Vice Chairman |
| 3. | Minister, Forest, Wild Life & Environment
Management | Vice Chairman |
| 4. | Minister, Food Security & Agriculture
Development and Horticulture & Cash
Crops Development | Vice Chairman |
| 5. | Principal CCF cum Secretary,
Forest, Wild Life & Environment Management
Department | Member |
| 6. | Secretary, Science & Technology Department | Member |
| 7. | Secretary, Food Security & Agriculture
Development and Horticulture & Cash Crops
Development Department | Member |
| 8. | Three representatives each of Horticulture
and Floriculture industries | Members |

9. Shri A.K. Mainra, IFS, CCF, Forest,
Wild Life & Environment Management Department Member
10. Director General/Principal Secretary Member and Secretary
(To be appointed separately)

4. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall also have an executive body consisting of Chief Executive Officer, a Member Secretary and one Accounts Officer, serving government employees of appropriate seniority on deputation with the Mission who will be responsible for day to day functioning of the Mission.

5. The SSHM shall have a Technical Advisory Group comprising of the following for consultations and advice regarding research, assessing demand and supply position for export of various species and various other aspects of functioning related to development of horticulture and floriculture with particular reference to orchid, other flowers and fruits cultivation:-

1. Shri S.T. Lachungpa, IFS Additional PCCF,
Forest, Wild Life & Environment
Management Department Chairman
2. Shri S.B.S. Bhaduria, IFS, CCF,
Forest, Wild Life & Environment
Management Department Member
3. Shri Kunga Gyatso, Principal Director,
Horticulture & Cash Crops
Development Department Member Secretary
4. Shri Khorlo Bhutia, Additional Director,
Horticulture & Cash Crops
Development Department Member
5. Director/Scientist In-charge, ICAR, Gangtok Member
6. Director/Scientist In-charge, NORC, Pakyong Member
7. Shri D.K. Bhandari, Deputy Director,
Horticulture & Cash Crops
Development Department Member
8. Shri Padam Subba, Deputy Director,
Horticulture & Cash Crops Member
9. Accounts Officer Member

6. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall have authority to raise its own resources from State Government, Central Government and Externally Aided Projects. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall prepare integrated projects which could be posed to various funding agencies for financial assistance.

7. The expenditure of the Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall be borne by the State Government. The financial assistance received from the State Government, Central Government, Externally Aided Project or any other funding/donor agency shall be kept in an account in the name of Sikkim State Horticulture Mission with the State Bank of Sikkim, Gangtok and the account shall be operated jointly by Chief Executive Officer Sikkim State Horticulture Mission and the Member Secretary. The account shall be maintained by the Accounts Officer working on deputation with the Sikkim State Horticulture Mission.

8. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall utilize the in-house facilities and manpower available with the Department of Forest, Wild Life & Environment Management, Horticulture & Cash Crops Development, Science & Technology Departments and these departments shall assist and extend all such facilities as necessary and required by this Mission.

9. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall promote cooperative efforts amongst growers and assist them to raise, transport and market their product.

10. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall have full powers to administratively approve and sanction all the schemes and work programmes. The accounts of Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall be open to audit by the Chartered Accountant and the audited report, utilization certificate and progress of work for the previous year should be prepared and placed before the State level Body of Sikkim State Horticulture Mission in the subsequent year.

11. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission will follow a mission approach for organizing various activities for achieving the objectives envisaged.

12. The employees of the Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall be governed by the rules of the State Government as prescribed from time to time.

BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR.

(R.S. BASNET)
PR. SECRETARY – DOP